

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1198**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Mullin**

February 22, 2005

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An act to add Section 831 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to juvenile court records.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1198, as introduced, Mullin. Juvenile court records: County of San Mateo.

Existing law generally provides for the confidentiality of court records. However, existing law specifically authorizes the release of information concerning a minor to specified persons.

This bill would authorize the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors to establish, by resolution, a demonstration project permitting the exchange of information concerning a juvenile, as specified. The project would include an evaluation of the impact of the demonstration project, as specified, and would not exceed 3 years, except as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 831 is added to the Welfare and
- 2 Institutions Code, to read:
- 3 831. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of state law, in
- 4 order to enable a demonstration project to test methods and
- 5 procedures of providing efficient and effective services to minors
- 6 who are subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, who are

1 recipients of public social or mental health services, or who are at  
2 risk of involvement or the need for those services, the County of  
3 San Mateo may conduct a demonstration program whose  
4 objective is to facilitate the exchange of information and  
5 documents that might otherwise be confidential according to  
6 state law or regulations. The implementation of the  
7 demonstration project requires the adoption of a resolution by the  
8 San Mateo County Board of Supervisors.

9 (b) If the board of supervisors adopts a resolution authorizing  
10 the implementation of the demonstration project, the project shall  
11 meet all of the following requirements:

12 (1) In connection with the administration of justice, mental  
13 health, and public social services, the program shall permit  
14 representatives of the court and other service providers to  
15 exchange information that might otherwise be confidential  
16 according to state law or regulation.

17 (2) Require all persons or service providers who are permitted  
18 to exchange information under the demonstration project to sign  
19 an agreement that the information exchanged will be used only in  
20 connection with the administration of justice, health services, or  
21 public social services.

22 (3) Include an objective evaluation of the impact of the  
23 demonstration project on the quality of juvenile justice, health  
24 services, and public social services provided to the minors.

25 (4) Not exceed three years' duration until and unless the board  
26 of supervisors, having reviewed the evaluation of the  
27 demonstration project, determines that the quality of services to  
28 minors has been enhanced by the removal of the statutory and  
29 regulatory barriers to the exchange of information.